



# Maryland Agriculture Data

## Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0304

April 19, 2004

### RAIN DELAYS FIELD ACTIVITY

There were 2.7 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending April 18, 2004. Most of Maryland’s farmers averaged between two and four inches of rain during the past week. Air temperatures averaged between 43 and 53 degrees, slightly below normal for this time of year. Warmer temperatures did appear late in the week which allowed the soil to dry out and field work to continue.

A small amount of planting progress was made for **field corn**, **watermelons**, **cucumbers**, and **snap beans**. **Green peas**, **potatoes**, and **sweet corn** planting progress increased between three and five percentage points this week.

**Barley** was in mostly good condition with 16 percent rated excellent, 53 percent good, 25 percent fair, and 6 percent poor. **Winter wheat** was rated 15 percent excellent, 56 percent good, 25 percent fair, and 4 percent poor. Barley and wheat should begin to form grain heads in the next two to three weeks.

**Pasture** was rated 18 percent excellent, 53 percent good, 23 percent fair, 4 percent poor, and 2 percent very poor. **Hay supplies** were rated 48 percent adequate, 32 percent short, and 20 percent very short.

### MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 2004 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1999-2003
Planting Progress:				
Cantaloups	8	6	1	4
Green Peas	56	53	59	69
Potatoes	40	35	27	55
Sweet Corn	11	7	10	15
Tomatoes	23	9	2	11
Fruit Crops Blooming:				
Apples	11	1	24	27
Peaches	25	19	43	58
Strawberries	20	17	35	36

### SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 2004 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	-	2	57	41
Topsoil (2003)	-	-	48	52
Five Year Avg	1	9	63	27
Subsoil Moisture	-	-	71	29
Subsoil (2003)	-	-	76	24
Five Year Avg	6	14	67	13

Holly Smith  
Agricultural Statistician

Norman Bennett  
State Statistician

CLIMATE REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING 4/18/2004

Maryland	County	Temperature			Departure from Normal
		Max	Min	Avg	
		Degrees F			
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	78	32	43.2	-2.5
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	-	-
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	83	33	49.0	-3.7
SMITHSBURG 2 NW NW	Washington	-	-	-	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	83*	29*	48.2*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	87	33	53.2	0.2
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	-	-
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	86	32	53.8	-0.4
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	84	32	49.8	-5.5
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	78*	38*	51.0*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT	New Castle	82	35	53.8	1.5
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	75	39	50.0	-2.0
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	69*	37*	48.5*	-3.5

Maryland	County	Growing Degree Days	Departure From Normal	Precipitation  (Inches)	Departure From Normal
FROSTBURG 2	Garrett	26	-8	1.84	0.93
MCHENRY 2 NW	Garrett	-	-	1.75*	0.77
CUMBERLAND 2	Allegany	42	-21	1.94	1.24
SMITHSBURG 2 NW	Washington	-	-	4.51*	-
SHARPSBURG 5 S	Washington	34*	-	2.34*	-
BALTIMORE/WASH ARPT	Baltimore	50	-5	1.74	1.10
CONOWINGO DAM	Harford	-	-	1.33	0.49
SALISBURY AIRPORT	Wicomico	58	-1	2.76	1.99
MECHANICSVILLE 5 NE	St. Marys	36	-31	2.52	1.75
EASTON POLICE BRKS	Talbot	29*	-	4.31*	-
Delaware					
WILMINGTON AIRPORT Castle	New Castle	52	2	2.26	1.49
WILMINGTON PORTER RSV	New Castle	33	-12	2.37	1.45
GREENWOOD 2 NE	Sussex	18*	-37	3.68*	2.91

\*indicates incomplete weekly value  
This report was prepared by the Northeast Regional Climate Center  
at Cornell University, <<http://www.nrcc.cornell.edu>>.